

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Office of Fire and Aviation
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To: All OF&A Employees

From: Director, Office of Fire & Aviation

Subject: Implementation of the Interagency Fire Program Management Qualifications Standards and Guide

Studies of wildland fire incidents for a number of years highlighted the fact that more stringent, uniform qualification standards were needed for certain fire management positions to ensure firefighter safety. The lengthy collaborative effort between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture to establish uniform fire management qualifications standards has been completed. These qualification standards were generated to improve firefighter safety and increase professionalism in the fire management program.

In the attached memorandum dated June 18, 2004, the Assistant Secretary for Office of Policy, Management and Budget **established October 1, 2004, as the date to officially begin implementing** the Interagency Fire Program Management Qualifications Standards and Guide (IFPM Standard). A subsequent memorandum was issued on July 2, 2004, by Carolyn Cohen, Director, Office of Personnel Policy, to all Bureau of Land Management Human Resources Directors reaffirming this implementation date.

The National Fire and Aviation Executive Board, through the Federal Fire Training Task Group, has chartered an interagency IFPM Implementation Team consisting of representatives from human resources, training and fire management. The IFPM Implementation Team met on August 5-6, 2004, to begin their work on an interagency basis. Their first task is to develop an implementation plan which will be issued on October 1, 2004. This plan will provide guidance on the implementation process.

The above-mentioned memorandums, the IFPM Standard and additional related information may be found on the internet at http://www.nifc.gov/training_qualifs/IFPM/ifpm.htm. If you have further questions, you may contact Mark Koontz, Implementation Team Lead, at 208-387-5090, or via email at mark_koontz@nps.gov.

Signed by:
Timothy M. Murphy
Acting Director
Office of Fire and Aviation

Authenticated by:
Pat Lewis
Supervisory Mgmt. Asst.
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Attachment:

Memorandum, Assistant Secretary for Office of Policy, Management and Budget (2 pp)

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